(a) Yes, Sir. The changeover is meant for the entire country and is meant to be a long-term measure for security.

(b) The use of hologram is one of the security features in the New Registration number plate. The cost of hologram is included in the cost of registration plate as a whole, the precise value of which shall be a commercial decision by the manufacturer/supplier of the registration plates.

(c) As per information available, such countries are Armenia, Columbia, Congo, Curacao, Ethopia, Georgia, Iraq, Japan, Mali, Malta, Oman, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Uruguay and Zambia, etc.

Declaration of N.Hs in Orissa

1340. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to declare some State roads in Orissa as National Highways were pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received by Government from Orissa during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to consider those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the period from 1-4-1998 to date, the Ministry had received 22 proposals relating to declaration of new National Highways in Orissa, out of which 5 routes with approximate length of 1595 kms. were declared as new National Highways. The left over proposals could be considered alongwith similar proposals received from the various States after the finalisation of the Tenth Five Year Plan depending on the traffic needs, their *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

CRF Projects

1341. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned for the Central Roads Fund Projects in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details of the projects sanctioned; and

(c) the details of the projects pending with the Central Government for approval/sanction indicating estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) 12 Nos. of projects amounting to Rs.3390.17 lakhs during the year 2000-2001 and 13 Nos. of projects amounting to Rs.4519.00 lakhs during the year 2001-2002 have been sanctioned in Jammu & Kashmir. So far a sum of Rs.1474.31 lakhs has been released under the Central Roads Funds Scheme in Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) Nil.

National Highway between Gopalpur and Raipur

1342. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to construct a National Highway between Gopalpur in Orissa and Raipur in Chhattisgarh:

(b) if so, the progress of work in this regard alongwith the details of land acquired and plan prepared for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for time-bound implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI):

(a) to (c) The road between Gopalpur in Orissa and Raipur in Chhattisgarh has been declared as National Highway No. 217 *vide* Notification No. S.O. 923(E) dated 12th October,2000 and entrusted to the respective State Governments *vide* Notification S.O.350(E) dated 23rd April,2001. Average land width available for development of this NH is 20m. Development of National Highways is a continuous process and improvement works are taken up in a phased manner depending on availability of funds and *inter*-se-priority.

Maintenance of NH-215

1343. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI ANANTA SETHI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: